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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/896,987 | 07/02/2001 | Philip E. Risser | S1015/20005 | 9887 |

3000 7590 07/26/2005
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| EXAMINER |
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LOWE, MICHAEL S

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3652

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/896,987

Applicant(s)

RISSER, PHILIP E.

Examiner

M. Scott Lowe

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/21/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/21/04 has been entered.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed 7/21/04 has been considered, but the foreign references without translations have only been considered to the extent that the PCT search report listed them as "A" references.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Steiner (GB 2,274,094A).

Re claim 1, Steiner teaches a system 1 for suspending a load over a floor, said system comprising a first 3, second 3, third 2a, and fourth 2a elongated, enclosed,

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hollow tracks, plural elongated cross members 2,4,5, a plurality of trucks B, and a plurality of generally U-shaped hangers S (2c,2b,4a,4c), each of said tracks including a longitudinally extending slot (not numbered), each of said hangers having a downwardly extending leg S, an intermediate section (2b,4a or 2c,4c) and an upwardly extending leg (2b,4a or 2c,4c), said first and second tracks 3,3 being disposed parallel to each other over the floor, said third and fourth tracks 2a,2a being disposed parallel to each other and interconnected by at least one of said cross members to form a runway frame, a first one of said trucks B being located within said first track and arranged to move along the interior of said first track, a second one of said trucks B being located within said second track and arranged to move along the interior of said second track, said first truck being connected to said downwardly extending leg S of a first of said hangers, with a portion of said first hanger passing through said slot in said first track, said upwardly extending leg of said first hanger being connected to said third track to support said third track beside and parallel to said first track, said second truck being connected to said downwardly extending leg of a second of said hangers and an elongated bridge (4 or 5) member adapted to have the load coupled thereto for suspending the load over the floor, said elongated bridge member being connected between said third and fourth tracks, with a portion of said second hanger passing through said slot in said second track, said upwardly extending leg of said second hanger being connected to said fourth track to support said fourth track beside and parallel to said second track, whereupon said runway frame is disposed horizontally between said first and second tracks and

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can be slid in a horizontal plane from a retracted position to an extended position and vice versa.

Re claim 2, Steiner teaches a third truck B located within said first track, a third hanger S (2c,2b,4a,4c) connected to said third truck, a fourth truck B located within said second track, and a fourth hanger S (2c,2b,4a,4c) connected to said fourth truck B, said third truck B being connected to said downwardly extending leg of said third hanger with a portion of said third hanger passing through said slot in said first track, said upwardly extending leg of said third hanger being connected to said third track, said fourth truck being connected to said downwardly extending leg of said fourth hanger, with a portion of said fourth hanger passing through said slot (not numbered) in said second track, said upwardly extending leg of said fourth hanger being connected to said fourth track.

Re claims 3,5, Steiner teaches said elongated bridge member (4 or 5) is connected transversely between the third and fourth tracks 2a,2a.

Re claims 4,6 Steiner teaches (figures 1,6,7) fifth and sixth trucks B,B and fifth and sixth hangers S (2c,2b,4a,4c) interconnected with bridge (4 or 5).

Re claims 7,8,9, Steiner teaches the trucks having plural wheels r1,r2.

Re claim 10, Steiner teaches plural support posts V for supporting said first and second tracks above the floor.

Re claims 11,12, Steiner teaches (page 1, second paragraph, page 2, third paragraph, etc.) the system in a vehicle with sides, a ceiling and floor and the runway frame extend through an opening (not numbered).

Re claim 13, Steiner teaches a hoist 6 on the bridge member (4 or 5).

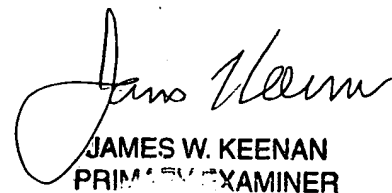
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Scott Lowe whose telephone number is (571) 272-6929. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30am-4:30pm M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eileen Lillis can be reached on (571) 272-6607. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

msl


JAMES W. KEENAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER